

GUIDELINES FOR BRIDGE INSPECTION FREQUENCIES

Bridge Operations Section, C & T Division

February 2002

The maximum frequency between "Routine" bridge inspections allowed by NBIS is 24 months. Often it is prudent to decrease that frequency if circumstances warrant. The list below is offered as a reference for bridge inspectors to maintain consistency statewide. It is recognized that each bridge is a unique situation and the inspector must understand the how the bridge is behaving over time and set the next inspection date accordingly.

No	ELEMENT OR BRIDGE TYPE	FREQUENCY (Mos.)			LOAD ANALYSIS ⁽¹⁾	COMMENTS ⁽²⁾
		< 6	6 to 9	9 to 15		
1	Posted Bridges					
	Design Deficient			X		Verify with Design
	Structural Deterioration	X	X		X	Change in condition will warrant re-analysis
2	Bridges 25 Years or Older					
	Bridge has Original Deck / Superstructure					Schedule first "Detail" inspection
3	Bridge Decks					
	Deck Rated 4					Notify bridge foreman to monitor deck.
	Deck Rated 3			X		If necessary, scale underside of deck.
4	Steel Superstructure					
	Section loss evident but amount not known.					Schedule "Detail" inspection
	Extensive Loss of Section (LOS >25%)	X			X	Set new frequency based on analysis.
	Fatigue Cracks	X			X	Contact FC Engineer. Submit to Design for urgent repairs.
	Temporary Supports Under Beams	X	X			Schedule "Special Inspections to monitor adequacy of supports
	Hi Load Hit Damage (Flange or web torn)	X	X		X	Submit to Design for urgent repairs.
5	Concrete Tee Beams					
	Diagonal Shear Cracks in Beams				X	Contact Design / C&T.
	Main Rebar Exposed w/ LOS. Rated 4.			X	X	Set new frequency based on analysis.
	Hi Load Hit Damage (Rebar damage)	X	X		X	Submit to Design for urgent repairs
6	Prestressed I-Beams					
	Spall on One Beam End (Loss of bearing)			X		Submit to Design for urgent repairs
	Spall on 2 Adj. Beam Ends (Loss of bearing)		X			Submit to Design for urgent repairs
	Broken Strands				X	Set new frequency based on analysis.
7	Prestressed Box Beams					
	Shear Stress Cracks			X	X	Contact Design / C&T.
	Beams Lateral Movement (Post-tensioning)			X	X	Contact Design / C&T.
8	Concrete Substructure					
	Structural Deterioration (Rated 4)			X		Schedule "Detail" inspection
	Structural Deterioration (Rated 3)	X	X		X	Schedule "Detail" inspection
9	Scour					
	Bridge on Scour Critical List	X	X	X		Inspection/monitoring as recommended by Hydraulics
	Bridge Undermined (Scour Critical List)	X	X	X		Submit to Hydraulics Unit, Design for Stability Analysis.

(1) Requests for load analysis are typically made with the use of a "Request for Action" form to the Bridge Management Unit, C & T Div.

(2) Whenever a load analysis is indicated, a "Special Inspection" may be used at the suggest frequency pending the result of the load analysis.